IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) Method for producing a can body ~~(2)~~, comprising:

~~in which method~~cutting a film piece ~~(3c) is cut~~ from a film web ~~(3b),~~; ~~and~~

winding the film piece ~~(3c) is wound~~ on a winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ from its leading edge to its trailing edge and holding the film piece~~is held~~ in a somewhat overlapping manner on the winding mandrel ~~(7), characterized in that~~;

transferring the film piece ~~(3c) is transferred~~ from the winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ to a concave inner surface ~~(11a);~~ and

sealing the overlapping area ~~(14)~~ of the interengaging film areas of the leading edge and the trailing edge ~~are sealed~~ with one another on the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~ is formed on a holding ~~means~~ device ~~(11)~~, and that the cylindrical closed film piece ~~(3d)~~, subsequent to the sealing of the overlapping area ~~(14)~~, is brought from the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~ onto a can body ~~(2)~~ and is engaged at least in part by at least one shrinking procedure.

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein~~characterized in that~~ for sealing the interengaging

film areas in the overlapping area ~~(14)~~, a convex pressing surface ~~(13)~~ is pressed to the exterior against the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~, while achieving a sealing pressure and a sealing temperature in the overlapping area ~~(14)~~, the heat needed to seal the overlapping area ~~(14)~~ being ~~preferably~~ supplied from the concave inner surface ~~(11a), particularly from a partial surface (15a) of the concave inner surface (11a)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the convex pressing surface ~~(13)~~ is actuated by an actuation device ~~means~~, a support being achieved during pressing at the concave inner surface, ~~(11a) and/or~~ and wherein ~~the~~ the convex pressing surface ~~(13)~~ is at least one of broader than the overlapping area, ~~(14) and/or is~~ resilient and ~~/or is~~ of a material that is unable to form an adhering connection with the sealing layer.

5. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of~~ claims 2 ~~to 4~~, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ after forming the sealing connection in the overlapping area ~~(14)~~, the winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ and the holding element ~~(11)~~ together with the closed film envelope ~~(3d)~~ and subsequently the can body ~~(2)~~ and the holding element ~~(11)~~ together with the closed film envelope ~~(3d)~~ are moved in axial direction relative to each other so that the film envelope ~~(3d)~~ is arranged around the can body ~~(2)~~ and is brought into contact with the can body ~~(2)~~ by a first shrinking procedure at least in an annular area ~~, and is, optionally, completely shrunk to the can body (2) in a second shrinking procedure, preferably outside the holding element (11), the heat for at least one shrinking procedure being preferably supplied in the form of radiant~~

~~heat and/or contact heat, particularly by means of hot air, but optionally inductively through the can body (2)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ for carrying out the connection procedure, heat~~, and optionally a pressure force,~~ is applied at least to a partial area of the film piece ~~(3d)~~ transferred to the can body ~~(2)~~, so that a sealing connection between at least a partial area of the film piece ~~(3d)~~ and the can body ~~(2)~~ is achieved~~, the heat being preferably supplied inductively through the can body (2), but optionally in the form of radiant heat and/or contact heat~~.

7. (Currently Amended) Device for applying a film piece ~~(3c)~~ to a can body ~~(2)~~ comprising:

~~_____~~ at least one receiver for holding a can body ~~(19),~~;

~~_____~~ feeding means for feeding film pieces ~~(3c),~~;

~~_____~~ at least one winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ onto which film pieces ~~(3c)~~ may be wound adhering thereto in such a way that their respective leading edge and their respective trailing edge are held on the winding mandrel in somewhat overlapping relationship~~,~~; ~~and further comprising~~

~~_____~~ at least one sealing ~~means~~device ~~(15)~~ to be heated~~,~~ ; ~~characterized in that~~

~~_____~~ **at least one** holding ~~means~~device, ~~(11)~~ including a concave inner surface ~~(11a) are formed~~, ~~and are~~ moveable relative to the winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ in such a manner that at least a partial area of the film piece ~~(3c)~~ including the leading edge and the trailing edge of the film piece ~~(3c)~~ are transferable from the winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ to the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~, wherein a pressure surface ~~(13)~~ renders the interengaging film pieces of an overlapping area ~~(14)~~ between the leading edge and the trailing edge able to be pressed to the concave inner

surface ~~(11a)~~, the at least one sealing device~~means (15)~~ renders a sealing procedure for connecting the overlapping area ~~(15)~~ releasable, and the concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~ is moveable relative to the can body ~~(2)~~ so that the cylindrical closed film piece ~~(3d)~~ may be supplied to the can body ~~(2)~~ and is engageable at least in part to the can body ~~(2) by shrinking means~~.

8. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the convex pressure surface ~~(13)~~ is moveable by an actuation ~~means (7c), preferably located on the winding mandrel (7) and particularly renders a pressure force obtainable, which may prop against the concave inner surface (11a),~~device, the convex pressure surface ~~(13)~~ being~~, in particular,~~ at least one of broader ~~then~~ than the overlapping area, ~~(14) and/or~~ resilient and~~/or is~~ of a material that is unable to form an adhering connection with the sealing layer.

9. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 7~~ or 8~~, wherein~~**characterized in that**~~ the at least one sealing device includes~~means (15) comprises~~ a sealing surface ~~(15a)~~ to be heated, which faces the convex pressure surface at the concave inner surface~~ (11a)~~, to which an insulation zone ~~(16)~~ joins~~, optionally on both sides,~~ in peripheral direction.

10. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 7 ~~to 9~~, ~~**characterized in that**~~ the device comprises at least one turning station ~~(18a, 18b)~~, which includes a receiver means ~~(19)~~ for holding can bodies ~~(2)~~ on a circular line at equal distances, a winding mandrel ~~(7)~~ and holding ~~means (11)~~device including a concave inner surface ~~(11a)~~ being associated to each receiver means ~~(19)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 7 ~~to 10~~, further comprising~~characterized in that~~ ~~the~~ at least one shrinking means for carrying out ~~said~~ a shrinking procedure by supplying heat to at least a partial area of the film piece ~~(3d)~~ transferred to the can body ~~(2), the heat being preferably supplied in the form of radiant heat and/or contact heat, but optionally inductively through the can body (2)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 7 ~~to 11~~, ~~characterized in that~~further comprising connection means for carrying out ~~said~~ a connection procedure that renders heat able to be supplied to at least a partial area of the film piece ~~(3d)~~ transferred to the can body ~~(2)~~, ~~and optionally also a pressure force,~~ so that a sealing connection is achieved between at least a partial area of the film piece ~~(3d~~ and the can body ~~(2), the heat being preferably supplied inductively through the can body (2), but optionally in the form of radiant heat and/or contact heat~~.

13. (Currently Amended) Can body, ~~(2)~~ comprising:

~~–~~a film piece ~~(3d)~~, ~~said film piece (3d)~~ extending around the periphery of the can, including at least one sealing layer ~~(3g)~~ wherein ~~the~~ interengaging film areas ~~being~~ are sealed to each other in an overlapping area ~~(14)~~, ~~and~~ the film piece being formed as a shrinking film, while having different abilities to shrink in the two main directions, ~~characterized in that the film piece (3d) engages~~and engaging everywhere the can body ~~(2)~~ directly, and thus free of adhesive, ~~and that~~wherein the direction of greater ability to shrink extends in peripheral direction of the can body ~~(2)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Can body according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the film piece ~~(3d)~~ is printed on its backside and has at least one of ~~comprises~~ a sealing layer ~~(3g)~~ on the printed layer ~~(3f)~~ and~~/or~~ ~~has~~ a thickness of less than 25 µm~~, preferably between 9 µm and 21 µm~~.

15. (Currently Amended) Can body according to claim 13, ~~or 14, characterized in that~~wherein the film piece ~~at least one of (3d)~~ extends in the bottom region of the can body ~~(2)~~ up to an outer annular area of the can base and~~/or that~~ ~~includes~~ an external base covering is ~~is~~ arranged on the base in such a manner that it overlaps the film edge.

16. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, further comprising~~Method for~~ imprinting said film web ~~(3b), portions of which are to be arranged on containers, characterized by~~ ~~comprising~~with at least one printing step using ~~the~~ a transfer method, wherein at least one~~, preferably at least two, but particularly three to five, different~~ colors is~~(are)~~ transferred to a transfer surface ~~(27)~~ and in a single step as a transfer printing layer to one side of the film web ~~(3b)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~wherein one side of the film web ~~(3b)~~ is provided with at least one of a preprint ~~(3f)~~ and~~/or~~ a sealing layer ~~(3g)~~ already prior to said printing step using a transfer method, ~~preferably by means of a gravure printing method,~~ the transfer printing layer ~~(3h)~~ and the preprint ~~(3f)~~ being ~~preferably~~ applied to different sides of the film web ~~(3b), wherein the preprint (3f) forms a primary coat or a basic decoration and is, in some cases, covered by a sealing layer (3g)~~.

18. (New) Method according to claim 2, wherein for sealing the interengaging film areas in the overlapping area, a convex pressing surface is pressed to the exterior against the concave inner surface, while achieving a sealing pressure and a sealing temperature in the overlapping area, the heat needed to seal the overlapping area being supplied from the concave inner surface.

19. (New) Method according to claim 5, wherein said film envelope is completely shrunk to the can body in a second shrinking procedure outside the holding element.

20. (New) Device according to claim 8, wherein the at least one sealing device includes a sealing surface to be heated, which faces the convex pressure surface at the concave inner surface, to which an insulation zone joins in peripheral direction.